# Insects from Aitutaki, Cook Islands

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The following insects were collected by the writer on Aitutaki Ialand, Aitutaki Atoll, Cook Islands during January-February, 1960. A species of *Pseudococcus* and one *Dacus* were obtained on Akaiami islet in the same atoll as noted below. Determinations were kindly made by the following specialists of the Entomology Research Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture: H. W. Capps, W. A. Connell, R. H. Foote, A. B. Gurney, K. V. Krombein, H. Morrison, C. F. W. Muesebeck, K. O'Neill, L. M. Russell, C. W. Sabrosky, M. R. Smith, T. E. Snyder, T. J. Spilman, A. Stone, L. M. Walkley, D. M. Weisman and W. W. Wirth. Dr. E. A. Chapin identified the coccinellids and Dr. D. Elmo Hardy the tephritid fly.

Additional material, not identified as yet, has been placed in the collections of the Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu.

Aitutaki Atoll consists of the main, mostly volcanic, island of Aitutaki and several small coral islets on the ring of coral reef which surrounds the lagoon. The area of the main island is a little over 6 square miles (3,946 acres) and the total area is about 7 square miles. Maungapu on the main island, 390 feet high, is the highest point. The mean annual rainfall for the 36 years of record by the New Zealand Meteorological Service is 78.11 inches. Copra, oranges and tomatoes are grown for export. Population of the atoll in 1958 was 2,430.

## ORTHOPTERA

Blattidae

**Graptoblatta notulata** (Stål).

Gryllidae

**Cycloptilum** sp.

## DERMAPTERA

Chelisochidae

**Chelisoches** sp. (not *C. morio* (F.)).

## ISOPTERA

Kalotermitidae

**Cryptotermes domesticus** (Haviland). An Indo-Malayan and Papuan species. In plywooddesk.

THYSANOPTERA

Phlaeothripidae

**Diceratothrips** sp. On dead leaves.

**Haplothrips gowdeyi** (Franklin). Swept from grass.

Thripidae

Apparently **Thrips** sp. of the *T. florum* Schmutz-*Taeniothrips hawaiiensis* (Morgan) complex. On *Pendanus* flowers.

HOMOPTERA

Aleyrodidae

**Orchamoplatus mammaeferus** (Quaintance & Baker). On orange leaves.

Aphidae

**Aphis gossypii** Glover. On leaves *Hibiscus tiliaceus* L.

**Rhopalosiphum maidis** (Fitch). On grass.

Coccoidea

**Icerya seychellarum** (Westwood). On branches *Acacia farnesiana* (L.).

**Phenacaspis** sp. On *Pandanus* leaf.

**Pinnaspis** sp. On coconut and pineapple leaves.

**Pseudococcus** sp. Akaiami islet, on base of coconut leaf.

**Pseudococcus** sp. On aerial roots *Ficus* sp.

**Pseudococcus** sp. On coconut leaf.

**Pseudococcus (Planococcus) citricus** Ezzat & McConnell. (Tentative determination). On leaves *Eugenia cumini* (L.) Druce. On long-podded bean plant.

COLEOPTERA

Cerambycidae

**Prosoplus** sp. probably *samoanus* Aurivillius.

**Sciadella** sp. possibly *variabilis* Aurivillius.

Undetermined cerambycid larvae. Boring under bark of live branch late Valencia orange tree.

Coccinellidae

**Coccinella repanda** Thunberg.

**Cryptolaemus montrouzieri** Mulsant.

**Rodolia cardinalis** (Mulsant).

**Scymodes** sp.

Elateridae

**Conoderus** sp.

Nitidulidae

**Carpophilus dimidiatus** (F.)

Tenebrionidae

**Tribolium castaneum** (Herbst.)

LEPIDOPTERA

Lycaenidae
**Catochrysops** sp.
Phycitidae
**Ephestia cautella** (Walker). Larvae in stored peanuts in the shell.
Tortricidae
Undetermined larvae. Folding young mango leaves.

DIPTERA

Culicidae
**Aedes polynesiensis** Marks. Abundant and annoying in wooded areas in daytime.
Muscidae
**Musca sorbens** Wiedemann. Abundant and annoying.
Stratiomyidae
**Hermetia illucens** (L.)
Syrphidae
**Xanthogramma scutellaris** (F.)
Tephritidae
**Dacus melanotus** Coquillett. Akaiami islet, Jan. 22.
**Paroxyna sororcula** (Wiedemann).

HYMENOPTERA

Apidae
**Apis mellifera** L.
Braconidae
**Agathis** sp., apparently new.
Evaniidae
**Evania appendigaster** (L.)
Formicidae
**Cardiocondyla nuda nereis** Wheeler. On plants.
**Tetramorium simillimum** (F. Smith). On toadstools.
Ichneumonidae
**Idechthis canescens** (Gravenhorst).
Megachilidae
**Megachile umbripennis** Smith.
Sphecidae
**Pison hospes** Smith.
**Sceliphron caementarium** (Drury).
Vespidae
**Pachodynerus nasidens** (Latreille).
**Pachymenes bicinctus** (F.).

**Polistes macaensis** (F.)?
**Polistes olivaceus** (De Geer).
**Rygchium rufipes** (F.).

A fungus found on leaves of sugar cane on the main island in February has been identified as *Helminthosporum sacchari* (Brede de Haan) Butler by the National Fungus Collections, U.S. Department of Agriculture.